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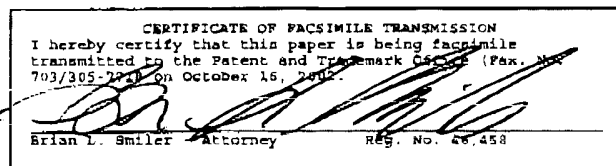
## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## Application of

Applicants : Vijayendran et al.  
Serial No. : 09/779,273  
Filed : February 8, 2001  
Title : CELLULOSIC FIBER COMPOSITES USING PROTEIN  
HYDROLYSATES AND METHODS OF MAKING SAME  
Docket : BAT 0033 PA  
Examiner : Peter Chin  
Art Unit : 1731  
Confirmation No.: 4100

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

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Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This paper is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed on September 24, 2002. In the Office Action, the Examiner required restriction between allegedly distinct inventions identified by the Examiner as Group I (claims 1-39, 83 and 84), drawn to a cellulosic fiber composite and Group II (claims 40-82), drawn to a method. Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, to have the claims of Group I examined on the merits.

Also in the Office Action, the Examiner required election of a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits. In response, applicants hereby elect, without traverse, claims 1-18, 30-39, 83 and 84, which are drawn to a species of resin identified by the Examiner as 1) phenolic.

Applicants note that the choice of species for substantive examination greatly depends upon the identity and number of claims, independent and dependent, that will be subject to substantive examination. Accordingly, the applicants request that they be given an additional opportunity to elect a species for substantive examination if the Examiner is of the opinion that a different set of claims reads upon the above-elected species.

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Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned to resolve efficiently any formal matters or to discuss any aspects of the application or of this response. Otherwise, early notification of allowable subject matter is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

KILLWORTH, GOTTMAN, HAGAN  
& SCHAEFF, L.L.P.

By 

Brian L. Smiler  
Registration No. 46,458

One Dayton Centre  
One South Main Street, Suite 500  
Dayton, Ohio 45402-2023  
Telephone: (937) 223-2050  
Facsimile: (937) 223-0724

BLS/

**FACSIMILE COVER SHEET****TO: Examiner Peter Chin, Art Unit 1731**Company: Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Fax No.: 703-305-7718**FROM: Brian L. Smiler**

Date: October 16, 2002

Pages: 3 (including cover page)

Our Docket No.: BAT 0033 PA

Transmission No.: \_\_\_\_\_

*Patents, Trademarks and Related Matters*  
**Killworth, Gottman, Hagan & Schaeff, LLP**One Dayton Centre  
One South Main Street, Suite 500  
Dayton, Ohio 45402-2023937.223.2050  
Fax: 937.223.0724  
E-mail: kgshs@kgshs.com**FAX RECEIVED**  
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**Remarks: IF YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEMS RECEIVING THIS TELECOPY MESSAGE, PLEASE CONTACT EVELYN M. SMART AT (937) 223-2050 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THANK YOU.****OFFICIAL****OFFICIAL****OFFICIAL****U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/779,273****CONFIDENTIAL FACSIMILE COMMUNICATIONS**

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